

Friends of the Santa Clara River

660 Randy Drive, Newbury Park, California 91320-3036 • (805) 498-4323

May 8, 2007

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chairman California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1300 Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco.

Friends of the Santa Clara River strongly supports the proposed Historical Ecology Study: Ventura and Southcoast Wetlands.

This study will serve to provide a fundamental understanding of the historical landscape of this region and how it has evolved through time.

Ventura County contains some of most ecologically valuable watersheds remaining in southern California. This study will support a number of efforts already underway by the Coastal Conservancy in the region by providing a scientifically based map and description of the earlier conditions of these watersheds. Coastal Conservancy projects include the Santa Clara River Parkway, Ormond Beach Wetland Restoration, the Ventura River Parkway, and floodplain restoration projects on lower Calleguas Creek to Mugu Lagoon.

Friends of the Santa Clara River are very excited about the Historical Ecology Study and will very much look forward to the study's publication. We have also been very encouraged by, and appreciative of, all of the Conservancy's ongoing projects in our regional watersheds.

Sincerely,

Ron Bottorff, Chair

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May 15, 2007

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman California Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1300 Oakland CA 94612

Re: Historical Ecology Study: Ventura County and South Coast Wetlands

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors supports the disbursement of up to \$525,000 to the San Francisco Estuary Institute for an historical ecology study of coastal rivers and wetlands of Ventura County and historical mapping of southern California coastal wetlands.

Historical mapping is an important fundamental tool to better understand how the landscape has changed over time and would fill a significant gap in the information necessary for restoration and conservation. Restoration of Ventura County's wetlands is important to the ecological function of our environment, enhances protection from flooding, and provides valuable resources for our residents and visitors to enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Linda Parks, Chair Supervisor, 2nd District